Loudoun County Government

DISABILITIES SERVICES BOARD

MINUTES

December 7, 2010

MEMBERS ATTENDING: Rowe Leathers, Lovely Lall, Frank Lombardi, Tim Tozer, Tom Wlodkowski, Joe Granata, Liz Mills, Ron Hoogerwerf.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ken Shipman, Julian Murray, Angela Shirazi.

INACTIVE MEMBERS: Greg Conrow

STAFF: Catherine Motivans (DSB County Liaison Support)

PUBLIC: Tracee Garner (LEND); Pam Forshee (VRTA).

Call to Order: 7:04 p.m.

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tracee Garner discussed the prior history of the Regional Organizational Grant. According to Tracee, last year LEND received \$50,000 from the Board of Supervisors (BoS). The BoS will be making a decision on the Regional Organizational Grant in January/February 2011. Tracee requested that if the DSB is unable to advocate, in any way, for the BoS to approve the Regional Organizational Grant that individual DSB members reach out on their own as concerned members of the community.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Joe Granata motioned to approve the November 2010 minutes; Ron Hoogerwerf seconded the motion. November 2010 minutes approved.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. DSB Transportation: Mapping Next Steps
 - 1. <u>Tom Wlodkowski Update</u> As a private citizen (not on behalf of the DSB), Tom received and exchanged e-mails from Supervisor McGimsey regarding transportation and accessibility issues. Tom reported that Supervisor McGimsey proposed a motion to move transportation/accessibility issues be moved to the Transportation and Land Use Committee. The BoS approve the motion by a vote of 8-0. The staff is supposed to provide a report the BoS in

February, 2011. Catherine Motivans noted that the staff liaison to the BoS is Charles Yudd.

Joe Granata asked Tom whether there is any expectation of involvement by the DSB in the February, 2011 report. Tom said that he sent an e-mail to Supervisor McGimsey indicating his hope that the DSB would be contacted for input into the report.

Tom volunteered to contact Mr. Yudd and to keep moving forward with the issues. Frank Lombardi said that this sounded like a great idea, but would like the opportunity to apprise Supervisor Burk of the DSB's intentions and activities.

- 2. <u>Follow-up with Andy Beacher</u> Catherine reported that she spoke with Mr. Beacher to follow-up on his discussion with the DSB during our last monthly meeting. Mr. Beacher would like to: (1) draft a formal to the DSB in response to our outstanding questions; and/or (2) present the responses to the DSB in person. The DSB agreed that we would leave it up to Mr. Beacher's schedule, but would be receptive to either or both options.
- 3. Mobility Management/Training Pam Forshee and Tracee Garner attended a three-day training seminar in Blacksburg, Virginia. As a result, Pam and Tracee are now qualified to provide mobility training in Loudoun County. The training sessions will most likely last approximately two hours. Tracee and Pam will also serve as Loudoun County's Transportation Solution Coordinators (TSC). The Virginia DPRT provides some funding for outreach and training.

Tracee noted that the purpose of the new program is to work with existing providers of transportation services. Accordingly, Tracee requested that the DSB consider working with the BoS to expand transportation services.

Pam said that she and Tracee will be seeking funding from private sources in hopes of establishing public-private partnership to provide transportation solutions that will benefit a broad spectrum of Loudoun County residents and businesses. For instance, Pam noted the highly successful West Falls Church Express service that is an on-going example of such a partnership.

B. January 2011 DSB Meeting

Julie Pastor, Director of the Loudoun County Planning Department, is scheduled to appear at the January 2011 DSB Meeting. Catherine will distribute the Comprehensive Planning document to DSB members in advance of the meeting. Ms. Pastor wants to speak with the DSB about identifying and working with new development opportunities. Catherine asked that DSB members send her sample questions and areas of discussion so that Ms. Pastor can fully prepare for the meeting.

C. DSB Master Calendar

Catherine asked DSB members to send her notifications of any upcoming events in the County in order to add them to the DSB Master Calendar.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Village at Leesburg Update

Ron and Frank reported on their very constructive meeting with Cypress Equities in November. Cypress Equities voluntarily agreed to make six of the seven suggested changes made by Ron and Frank. The next step is for Cypress Equities to submit the proposed changes to the Town of Leesburg for approval. If the Town agrees, then Cypress Equities expects to hire a contractor and begin work as early as February 2011.

Joe asked Ron and Frank for the logistics of how they went about arranging the meeting. Ron said that through some initial phone calls, he was able to obtain the e-mail address of a person with authority in Cypress Equities, and it went from there.

Joe then asked about the permitting process running through the Town of Leesburg. Joe suggested that the DSB should obtain the contact information for the appropriate people with the Leesburg government who provide accessibility reviews for the Town.

All DSB members joined in congratulating Ron and Frank for their efforts in pursuing these issues with Cypress Equities.

B. Changing the DSB Meeting Time

Catherine will distribute a reminder by e-mail that the DSB is changing its meeting date to the third Thursday of every month effective January 2011.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Liz Mills mentioned that she has some contacts with the developer of the Kincora project. Liz offered to make an initial contact, if warranted, if the DSB wants to learn more about the project. Frank indicated that he thought this was a good idea. Tom mentioned that he has worked with someone who performs ADA compliance with sports stadiums.

Tracee Garner mentioned that she didn't think that the BOS meetings are close captioned. Frank said he would look into the matter.

Frank recognized Tom for his work with Supervisor McGimsey.

VI. STAFF REPORT

Catherine distributed draft business cards to DSB members for review. Tom noted that the cards should be revised to include Braille.

Catherine provided some additional information on the FOIA law. According to her discussions with County staff, the DSB can provide a call-in number for members of the public that can handle up to five lines. However, if DSB members use the call-in number, they will not count towards a quorum. Catherine said that the DSB could make a recommendation on whether, and if, the FOIA law should be modified in order to provide greater access to persons with disabilities to participate in local government. Tim Tozer will work on drafting some suggested language for distribution at the next DSB meeting.

A motion to adjourn was passed at 8:35 p.m.

Next Meeting: January 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.